

YMCA

My dear Harold,

It has been so terribly long since we were last in touch, and I regret not seeing you much more often.

These days are overcrowded and often lacking in sentimentality. At this moment I am taking a few moments at my desk at the Jackson Metropolitan Library, where I'm now employed full-time. At night I'm a full-time student at the Jackson School of Law. If all goes according to schedule, I will be a lawyer by 1976, by which time my prayers are that we will have a new, young President Kennedy, one whom I pray will be destined to a long and healthy life, and who will (as only he can) restore to the spirit of America its lost elegance, efficacy and decency.

You once wrote me that you never bothered to read American Grotesque, largely due to its over-inflated price (\$12). I recently saw it, and decided to get you a copy. It is beautifully designed, lavishly overwritten, and had a magnificent publicity job. It is, however, badly biased and based on an incompetent and erroneous premise. Still, I recommend

that you read like you would eat a bruised apple. Eat around the bad spots and you'll get a few good bites. His excellent account of his interview with Garrison is devastating, and detailed of the personality with which we are both so familiar. ~~You~~ You are in the book only in a brief mention on p. 179. My work <sup>with Garrison</sup> was in research, and comparatively minor, so I'm not in it at all.

~~He was a bit of a~~  
You may pick up a few tidbits, about Bethell, Colley, and Sciambra. I saw Sciambra at Garrison's last election party, which was a disaster. The election was clearly rigged, and it would take a book to describe just what I saw. ~~Sciambra~~ Sciambra got terribly intoxicated and spit up in the pool. Bethell was there with Rosemary James, hoping to cover Garrison's demise.

After that I saw Garrison and had a wonderful visit with him during his second trial, which he jocularly called "my semi-annual seminar on how to defend yourself against the government. The "case" was a shameful, disgraceful fraud, much worse than the first. And Jim shows the wear + tear. He did

not look well when I saw him, and he walks as though slightly crippled. Gervais, incredibly, was again ~~the~~ the chief witness against Garrison. It is too disgusting to write about.

I must go now. There were so many things I wanted to write you about in detail, but the office is beginning to get hectic now, as people start coming back in from lunch.

And my boss is pestering me.

So I'll close now until later.

Please write me in detail, as soon as you can, all the news of you, and also of your suits.

By the way, I hate to tell you, but Garrison says he thinks that conference we attended was C.I.A. sponsored, an idea I consider ridiculous.

My hopes of becoming a lawyer are, of course, dependant upon my keeping up at least a C average, and, most importantly, passing the State bar exam.

Hope you can read my bad handwriting. I think of you often, and pray you are well. Hope we can get together again very soon, my good friend.

Sincerely yours,

Jim